THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF ATOMIC ENERGY (SHRI SATYABRATA MOOKHERJEE): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) During the X Plan, it is planned to increase the present nuclear power capacity to 4020 MWe by completing the projects TAPP-3&4 and Kaiga-3, Kaiga-4, Kudankulam-1&2 and RAPP-5&6 are scheduled for completion by the first two years of the XI Plan. Work on these projects is progressing as per schedule. On completion of these projects by December 2008, the total nuclear power generation capacity in the country would rise to 6680 MWe.

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) The projects under execution are at Tarapur in Maharashtra, Kaiga in Karnataka, Kudankulam in Tamil Nadu and Rawatbhata in Rajasthan. More projects, subject to availability of financial resources, are also planned to be taken up. The Government has not taken any decision on sites for future projects beyond those that are at present under construction.

(e) The funding pattern of nuclear power projects currently under execution does not envisage any direct participation in the investment by the State Governments.

(f) Not applicable in view of (e) above.

Atomic Power Generation

1551. SHRI RAMA MUNI REDDY SIRIGIREDDY: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that India is procuring nuclear reactors from Russia and other Western countries to boost atomic power generation in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether it is also a fact that USA is also extending its helping hand to cooperate with India in the field of civil nuclear energy; and

(d) if so, the details of the cooperation sought by India and accepted by the USA?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF ATOMIC ENERGY (SHRI SATYABRATA MOOKHERJEE): (a) and (b) Nuclear Power Corporation of India Ltd., a Public Sector Undertaking of this Department, is setting up a Nuclear Power Project consisting of two Light Water Reactor units of 1000 MWe each (KKNPP-1&2) at Kudankulam, Tamil Nadu in cooperation with Russian Federation. The construction work on this project is going on as per schedule and the commercial operation of these units are planned for December 2007 and December 2008 for the first and second unit respectively.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Does not arise.

Grant of mining Lease in Kerala

1552. SHRI N.K. PREMACHANDRAN: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to refer to the answer to Unstarred Question No. 894 given in the Rajya Sabha on the 28th November, 2002 and state:

(a) whether the State Government of Kerala has recommended proposals for grant of mining lease for ilmenite rutile, leucoxeve, zircon, monazite in favour of M/s. Cochin Minerals and Rutiles Ltd. as on the 1st April, 2000; and

(b) if so, the details of the recommendation made by the State Government specifically the dates of such recommendation and the Central Government's response thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF ATOMIC ENERGY (SHRI SATYABRATA MOOKHERJEE): (a) As on 1.4.2000, the Central Government had not received any recommendations from the Government of Kerala for grant of mining lease in favour of M/s. Cochin Minerals and Rutiles Limited.

(b) Does not arise.